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COUNTRY Spain

SUBJECT Support by the CNT of the ANFD Decision to Back PRIETO

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1. The Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo inside Spain decided in late December 1948 to support the Alianza Nacional de Fuerzas Democraticas in its decision to join forces with the Socialists led by Indalecio PRIETO, according to Jose E. LEIVA, former CNT Minister in the Spanish Republican Government-in-Exile. LEIVA added that he personally was not enthusiastic about this policy but would carry out the line laid down by the CNT in the interior, which had been adopted on the urging of the ANFD President, Pascual PARICIO.
2. With acceptance by the ANFD of the Monarchist-Socialist agreement, the Liaison Committee which was to have been formed in Paris would be replaced, according to LEIVA, by what he called a sort of foreign affairs commission of the ANFD. It was his opinion that the Monarchists preferred to deal with PRIETO or Trifon GOMEZ alone rather than with representatives of the entire ANFD.
3. Recognizing the Monarchist ascendancy in the present political picture, LEIVA indicated that he would support the Monarchist rise to power as the lesser evil although he did not believe that the Monarchists would ever accept a plebiscite. He stated, however, that he would remain a republican in belief and in long-range aims.
4. According to LEIVA, the ANFD headquarters now is in the Basque Country.
5. Antonio TRIGO, representing the Socialist Party inside Spain in negotiations with the Monarchists, stated in mid-December that as soon as instructions were received from PRIETO, the ANFD would meet in Bilbao to name the Liaison Committee, since the Socialist Party wanted that Committee to represent the ANFD as a whole and not the Socialist Party alone. TRIGO hoped to obtain Basque participation in the ANFD.
6. TRIGO stated that the note of which a translation is attached had been delivered to the United States, British, French, Belgian and "one other."

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embassy in Madrid by PARICIO in the name of the ANFD. He added that the document, which also had been delivered to the Basques and Catalans, had been drafted and corrected by PRIETO.

Enclosure: Note of the ANFD

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